

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 00779 161350Z

47-40

ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 NEA-09 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

RSC-01 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 L-02 SP-02 /046 W

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R 161245Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO USMISSION USUN NY

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 6351

AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS

AMCONSUL BOMBAY

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

AMCONSUL MADRAS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 0779

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, IN

SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL STATUS FOR HINDI LANGUAGE

1. THE FIRST WORLD HINDI CONVENTION AT NAGPUR JANUARY 11-13 WAS INAUGURATED BY PRIME MINISTER GANDHI AND CHAIRED BY MAURITIAN PRIME MINISTER RANGOOLAM. THE THRUST OF MRS. GANDHI'S SPEECH ECHOED BY OTHER POLITICIANS AND FOREIGN DELEGATES WAS ON ACQUIRING INTERNATIONAL STATUS FOR HINDI, ALTHOUGH MRS. GANDHI SAID HINDI SHOULD FIRST ACHIEVE GENERAL ACCEPTANCE AS THE NATIONAL LANGUAGE WITHIN INDIA ITSELF.

2. COMMENT:WE HAVE NOT PROBED THE MEA TO DETERMINE IF INDIA INTENDS TO LAUNCH A HINDI INITIATIVE.IT IS OUR IMPRESSION THAT THERE IS LITTLE ENTHUSIASM FOR SUCH A MOVE AMONG INDIA'S DIPLOMATS, SINCE MANY OF THEM HAVE THEIR OWN TROUBLES WITH HINDI. WE WOULD, HOWEVER, BE CURIOUS TO KNOW IF THERE HAS BEEN ANY CORRIDOR TALK AT THE UN ON THIS SUBJECT. IT OCCURS TO US THAT ONE METHOD OF STRENGTHENING THE CASE FOR HINDI NATIONALLY WOULD BE TO HAVE IT ACCEPTED FIRST AS AN INTERNATIONAL LANGUAGE.

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SCHNEIDER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: OFFICIAL LANGUAGE, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 JAN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975NEWDE00779
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750017-0517
From: NEW DELHI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750146/aaaabopm.tel
Line Count: 61
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 JUL 2003 by MartinML>; APPROVED <03 JUL 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INTERNATIONAL STATUS FOR HINDI LANGUAGE
TAGS: PINT, OCON, IN
To: USUN NEW YORK
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006